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## SMALLPOX IN NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND, IN 1921.<sup>1</sup>

Prior to February 16, 1921, no case of smallpox had been recorded in Nottingham since July, 1912. The first case during 1921, in an unvaccinated girl 20 years of age, had its onset about February 16. The infection was acquired in a northern town. The patient was removed to the isolation hospital, and there was no spread of the disease. The next case appeared May 22. It was suspected that the source of this infection was the Long Eaton outbreak, which was in progress at that time. Long Eaton is less than 7 miles from Nottingham, and communication between the towns is free and constant. From the middle of May, 1921, until the latter part of January, 1922, there occurred in Nottingham 112 cases.

The disease was of mild type, a large proportion of the cases being described as of the "alastrim" or western type; yet it is stated that from the same strain there developed other cases of normal unattenuated variety. Several cases were extremely severe, but there was no fatality.

The protection against the complaint afforded by vaccination is indicated in the following table, which shows the cases in age groups among the vaccinated and unvaccinated. It is stated that the somewhat extended period of protection is probably explained by the low infectivity of an attenuated virus.

*Smallpox in Nottingham, Februcry, 1921, to January, 1922—Cases among vaccinated and unvaccinated arranged in age groups.*

Vaccinated.						Unvaccinated.					
Under 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	Over 50.	Under 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	Over 50.
.....	.....	.....	9	5	7	50	25	12	2	1	2

All vaccinated persons attacked were over 30 years of age, whereas 87 out of 92, or 94.6 per cent, of the unvaccinated persons attacked were under 30 years of age.

It was stated that about half of the children of the city had been vaccinated and that none of those vaccinated contracted smallpox.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT PRACTICE OF LARGE AMERICAN CITIES.<sup>2</sup>

The need of authentic information on the practice of municipal health departments of American cities has long been recognized. A

<sup>1</sup> From a report by Philip Boobbyer, M. D., medical officer of health, city of Nottingham, in *The Medical Officer* for Apr. 1, 1922, p. 137.

<sup>2</sup> First Report of the Committee on Municipal Health Department Practice of the American Public Health Association, presented at the annual meeting of the association in New York City, November, 1921. Reprinted from the *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. XII, Nos. 1 and 2, January and February, 1922.